



Maynard Citizens Corps/Medical Reserve Corps Newsletter

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Board Members
meet on the
second Thursday
of each month.

The next
scheduled
meeting is
January 9th at
6:30PM.

If you have
comments or
suggestions
please
contact us at 978
897 1302
mrc@
townofmaynard.net
Upcoming

Winterize Your Home

When you put on your winter weather gear to stay warm outside, colder temperatures can mean an increase in energy use to stay warm inside. If you prepare properly, heating your home doesn't have to break the bank. As the mercury dips, ready your abode for sweater weather by following these easy steps to [winterize your home](#):

- Insulate pipes with insulation or newspapers and plastic;
- Allow faucets to drip a little to prevent pipes from freezing; and
- Cover windows with plastic to keep the cold air out.

You may choose to use indoor space heaters for added warmth. If not used properly, space heaters can be a very dangerous fire hazard. When purchasing a space heater, look for one that has an automatic shut-off or tip-over switch. Place the heater on a level surface away from flammable items such as curtains, bedding or furniture. To help prevent [carbon monoxide poisoning](#), make sure the room has enough ventilation.

Get in the energy saving spirit by conducting a [home energy assessment](#). See how much energy your home consumes and evaluate what measures you can take to make your home more energy efficient. Then, check out "[12 Days of Energy Savings](#)" from the U.S. Department of Energy to learn things you can do to stay warm while saving money this winter.

Communication Checklist

Make sure you have at least one of the following in case there is a power failure:

- Battery-powered radio (for listening to local emergency instructions). Have extra batteries.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio receiver (for listening to National Weather Service broadcasts).
- Find out how your community warns the public about severe weather:
 - Siren
 - Radio
 - Television
- Listen to emergency broadcasts.

**Town of
Maynard Web
Site [www.
townofmaynard-
ma.gov](http://www.townofmaynard-ma.gov)**



**Public
Emergency
Information
Line: 978-897-
1332 (recorded
information
about shelters,
etc.)**



- Know what winter storm warning terms mean:
 - **Winter Weather Advisory:** Expect winter weather conditions to cause inconvenience and hazards.
 - **Frost/Freeze Warning:** Expect below-freezing temperatures.
 - **Winter Storm Watch:** Be alert; a storm is likely.
 - **Winter Storm Warning:** Take action; the storm is in or entering the area.
 - **Blizzard Warning:** Seek refuge immediately! Snow and strong winds, near-zero visibility, deep snow drifts, and life-threatening wind chill.

Food and Safety Checklist

Have a week's worth of food and safety supplies. If you live far from other people, have more supplies on hand.

- Drinking water
- Canned/no-cook food (bread, crackers, dried fruits)
- Non-electric can opener
- Baby food and formula (if baby in the household)
- Prescription drugs and other medicine
- First-aid kit
- Rock-salt to melt ice on walkways
- Supply of cat litter or bag of sand to add traction on walkways
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Battery-powered lamps or lanterns
(To prevent the risk of fire, avoid using candles.)

Water Checklist

Keep a water supply. Extreme cold can cause water pipes in your home to freeze and sometimes break.

- Leave all water taps slightly open so they drip continuously.
- Keep the indoor temperature warm.
- Allow more heated air near pipes. Open kitchen cabinet doors under the kitchen sink.
- If your pipes do freeze, do not thaw them with a torch. Thaw the pipes slowly with warm air from an electric hair dryer.
- If you cannot thaw your pipes, or if the pipes have broken open, use bottled water or get water from a neighbor's home.
- Have bottled water on hand.
- In an emergency—if no other water is available—snow can be melted for water. Bringing water to a rolling boil for one minute will kill most germs but won't get rid of chemicals sometimes found in snow.